

THE WAR HAS BEGUN

BRITISH AND FRENCH TROOPS MET IN WEST AFRICA

A sanguinary conflict takes place at Nikki in the Lagos Hinterland. The report is that the British and French troops met in a collision on the 26th inst. The British troops were victorious.

Berlin, November 26.—A dispatch to the Frankfort Zeitung from Rome, reports that a sanguinary conflict has taken place between the French and the British at Nikki, in the Lagos Hinterland.

London, November 26.—Late in the day a rumor was received at the British colonial office to the effect that there had been a collision between the British and French forces at Nikki, which is said to have been captured by the French troops. The officials of the colonial office, however, regard this report as highly improbable, as they explain, the British police in the Hinterland, who are in very limited numbers, had strict orders to avoid any collision with the French. It is also understood that the French forces had been instructed not to come into conflict with the British. The British forces in the Hinterland, it is further stated, are being reinforced considerably.

The colonial office late this evening received a cable message from Lagos, West coast of Africa, stating that a rumor is current among the natives there of a collision between 400 British and French troops. The report, it is believed will prove to be founded on a conflict between the French and some natives.

Paris, November 26.—M. Lebon, the minister of the colonies, has received no information of a collision between the British and French troops at Nikki, in the Niger region, and discredits the report.

A conflict between the French and British forces in the Lagos Hinterland has been anticipated for some time past. Both countries have been hurrying troops into the disputed territory. The trouble is of about thirty years standing. In 1870 France and Great Britain opened negotiations for the settlement of their respective frontiers in West Africa, and it was decided in substance that French influence and authority should be confined to the north of a certain line and that Great Britain should have a free hand south of this line. The outbreak of the Franco-Prussian war interrupted the negotiations. There was considerable opposition in both countries to the cessation of any territory during the next five years. Difficulties frequently occurred. Finally it was resolved to appoint commissioners to reconsider the whole matter, and as a result in the course of the next ten years, four separate agreements were concluded. One dealt with the territorial limits of Sierra Leone, the second arranged a number of disputed points regarding the Gambie, Sierra Leone, the gold coast, and Lagos; the third drew a line between the spheres of the two countries in the Niger region, running from Say, on the Niger, to Baro, on Lake Chad, and making a detour so as to include the kingdom of Sokoto in the British sphere; and the fourth settled the anterior frontier of Sierra Leone, relinquishing the Hinterland to France.

Since these agreements were arrived at, further difficulties have arisen owing to the failure of the boundary commissioners of Great Britain and France to agree among themselves as to the lines and especially as to the interpretation of the Say-Baro treaty, principally owing to the absence of any boundary line to the southwest of Say, where the competition of the British and French has been very strong. The British Niger Company, which was first in the field, concluded a number of treaties with native chiefs, bringing the whole of the Borgu Dahomey Hinterland within the British sphere. This was during the fall of 1894. In the meanwhile the French was trying to establish a great African empire, to extend from Algeria to the basins of the Congo and the upper Nile. But for this purpose it was essential to secure the Hinterland of Lagos and Carnotville, in northern Dahomey.

The British Niger Company, however, getting wind of the French plans, dispatched Captain, (now major) Lugard, to Nikki, the capital of Borgu, for the purpose of negotiating a treaty with the native ruler, and the English officer was strong enough to reach there before a French officer, Commandant Decoeur, who was bound for the same place and with the same intention, although the latter had the start and Lugard secured his treaty and carried it away three weeks before Decoeur arrived at Nikki.

The French however, seemed to have chosen to disregard this fact and have dispatched armed expeditions, not only to Nikki, but to Broussa, which has all along been acknowledged to be within the sphere of British influence. Besides, the French have raised a question as to whether the right bank of the Niger below Say is property included in the British sphere under the Say-Baro treaty, and to settle these and other questions in dispute, commissioners representing Great Britain and France are now tardily beginning to deliberate in Paris.

Bishop Held's Jubilee
Charlotte, N. C., November 26.—At Belmont the celebration of the silver jubilee of bishop Held, of North Carolina, was concluded today. There was a distinguished assembly of prelates and priests present at St. Mary's college, Belmont, the residence of the bishop. His eminence, the cardinal arrived in a special car on Wednesday and presided at the "presentation" at 2:30 o'clock p.m., when the congratulations were offered to the right reverend prelate. Costly gifts were then presented, among them a cross and chain of North Carolina gold, set with native gems, among them an exquisite hid-dente, the North Carolina diamond.

The solemn pontifical high mass was celebrated on Thanksgiving day by bishop Held, on the throne, assisted by the Cardinal, beside him. The bishop of Syracuse, N. Y., Charleston, S. C., Wilmington, Del., Richmond, Va., were present, the benedictine abbots of America.

Rev. F. J. Regis, of St. Paul's cathedral, Pittsburgh, delivered the jubilee sermon.

At the banquet, more than one hundred distinguished guests participated. Bishop Held enjoys the exclusive distinction in the United States of being both bishop and abbot. He is an eloquent speaker and is very popular throughout the state.

HIS DAYS ARE NUMBERED

Senator Butler's Vile Speech at Rocky Mount to Cause His Down-fall—The Senate to Investigate the Matter Possibility of His Expulsion—His Weak Attempts at Denial

(News and Observer.)
Some time ago The News and Observer predicted that Senator Butler's political days were numbered. This was before his speech at Rocky Mount. Since that vile slander upon the manhood of the state, the prediction is being rapidly verified.

The people of the state are up in wrath against him; mightily aroused in many communities, they declare that if he ever comes into their midst again they will heap some indignity upon him to show their condemnation of his slanderous words.

What is more, the news comes from Washington that the senate will very likely take the matter in hand, investigate it to the bottom and either expel the author of the words from that body as a blackguard, unworthy to associate with decent men, much less pass laws for a great nation, or pass a resolution reprimanding him for such a speech.

This is the news that was yesterday flashed over the wires and is this morning printed in some of the New York papers. What truth there is in it yet remains to be seen.

That the man realizes his terrible condition is shown by the fact that he is moving heaven and earth to prove that he did not use the words attributed to him. He is importuning all the populists and republicans who were in his audience at Rocky Mount that day to write him letters saying that they heard no such words as those above quoted. These letters he purposes publishing in his paper next week, and using in his defense should the matter come up before the senate, as I am reliably informed it very probably will.

In the last two issues of The Caucasian he has published what purported to be denials. The first one was a denial at all, or rather it was a denial of an accusation never made against him. This week he writes two columns of dodging evasive drift.

Replying to this denial, The Argonaut, the paper that first published the extract from his speech, produces affidavits from six of the best men in Nash county, who were present and heard the remark. Commenting upon these sworn statements The Argonaut says:

"If this does not convince, then an angel from heaven would be looked upon as a disseminator of 'campaign lies.' This charge was not made against the white people of the state to white people, but to a crowd of negroes who sat in one corner of the seats provided for the audience. Senator Butler turned to this corner and pointing his finger to the colored men gathered there used the language we have quoted."

Either Senator Butler has cruelly defamed his own race and people and stooped to a base lie to escape the consequence of his words or six of the best people of Rocky Mount are perjured scoundrels—let the world decide.

BAD DAY FOR BLOCKADERS

Three Distilleries Captured in One Day. Heavy Expense of Bringing Convicts to the Penitentiary—To Form an Inter-State Teachers' Association

(Special to The Messenger.)
Raleigh, N. C., November 25.—Revenue officers made a great raid yesterday near Ringwood, Halifax county, and captured three illicit stills and 3,000 gallons of beer. There were nine men at the stills, but only one was arrested, as the others outran the deputies.

The report that ex-Conductor Chavasse had been appointed to a good position on the Seaboard Air Line, is found to be untrue.

Four convicts from Asheville arrived at the penitentiary today, and it cost \$12 to bring them here. The average cost of bringing convicts to the penitentiary for the past twenty years is found by the state auditor to be \$9,000 yearly.

There is a movement by the North Carolina Teachers' Association to form an Inter-State Teachers' Association of teachers from Tennessee, Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina, and to have it meet at Asheville next summer. State Superintendent Mearns today endorsed the plan. He says the National Educational Association does not reach North Carolina teachers.

Another Murderer Pardoned

(Special to The Messenger.)
Raleigh, N. C., November 26.—The governor pardons William C. Etters, who four years ago killed Dr. David Hogue in Cleveland county, and was sentenced to fifteen years in the penitentiary. All the jurors signed the petition for pardon, as did 700 citizens, and the penitentiary physician says Etters has but a short time to live.

The governor orders a special term of Guilford superior court in January. The judge is not yet assigned.

The new main building at Guilford college, costing \$10,000, was accepted yesterday by the committee, of which Treasurer Worth is a member.

CALDWELL VS WILSON

The Case Set for Hearing in Supreme Court December 4th—Raleigh's Charity Ball (Special to The Messenger.)

Raleigh, N. C., November 26.—The charity ball given at the Park hotel tonight in aid of Rex hospital is a great success, and nets a handsome sum. There are over forty couples of dancers and 200 spectators.

The case of L. C. Caldwell against James W. Wilson, involving the chairmanship of the railway commission is set for hearing December 4th. The supreme court thus advances it against the protest of Wilson's attorney and decides it regularly on the docket.

There are seventy-one railroads in North Carolina with a total of 3,436 miles.

THE WORST YET

DISGRACEFUL SCENES IN THE AUSTRIAN REICHSRATH

The Leftists Behaving Like Maniacs—They Make a Wild Rush for the Speaker—A Free Fight—The Hall Filled With Police—Members Forcibly Ejected After Violent Resistance to the Police Officers—Adjournment of the Sitting Forced by the Disorder

Vienna, November 26.—The disorder in the lower house of the reichsrath was so accentuated today that a strong detachment of police had to be called in to preserve order. When the president of the house, Dr. Abrahamovics, entered he was greeted with vociferous shouts of "Get out." The leftists rose in a body, many of the deputies shrieked wildly and an indescribable tumult followed. During the tumult, a social democrat, Herr Berner, made a rush for the president and a lively fist-fight followed between Berner and the house attendants who attempted to protect the chair. Thereupon another social democrat, Herr Resel, jumped upon the ministerial bench and, hurrying to the presidential chair, seized the papers which were lying on the president's desk and tore them to pieces, while other social democrats hastened to Herr Berner's assistance, occupied the tribune and demanded satisfaction for the attendants pummeling of Herr Berner. President Abrahamovics was compelled to flee.

Subsequently the social democrats and other deputies indulged in a free fight and Herr Berner was ejected from the house. In the meantime a detachment of seventy police arrived in the house and the officer in command called upon the social democrats to withdraw from the presidential platform. They refused to withdraw and resisted the attempts of the police to eject them. They were eventually removed forcibly and singly. The police then made a cordon around the tribune. These scenes were enacted prior to the formal opening of the house.

While the deputies were fighting and howling on the floor of the house, a tumult arose in the second gallery, which the attendants promptly cleared. The authorities then caused all the lobbies of the house to be filled with police, the gates were closed and the building was guarded by a strong police force. The session of the house, in the meanwhile was suspended.

When the hour for the reichsrath to assemble this afternoon came, after a forced adjournment of the morning session, the re-appearance of President Abrahamovics was greeted by a storm of abuse, the slamming of desk lids, whistling, etc. He repeatedly tried to address the leftists, but his voice was inaudible amid the uproar, the only articulate sounds distinguishable being cries from the leftists of "Out with the police."

Dr. Wolff, the German nationalist, leader yesterday, contributed prominently to the pandemonium. Upon this occasion he kept blowing a shrill whistle. Herr Resel, the social democrat deputy who took such a prominent part in the disturbances this morning also indulged this afternoon in shrill whistling.

In the midst of this uproar, President Abrahamovics opened the sitting and twice called Dr. Wolff to order. As this had no effect upon the turbulent German nationalist, the president suspended him for three sittings. As soon as the leftists realized what had occurred, they bustled into a state of unbridled fury, shrieking insults at Dr. Abrahamovics. Herr Daszynski, a socialist deputy, yelled: "You ought to be in jail." Other infuriated deputies shouted all kinds of invectives, but individual contributions to the uproar were indistinguishable amid the general howling from all parts of the house.

In spite of this disgraceful scene, and the insults hurled at him, President Abrahamovics was apparently unmoved, but when he realized that it was useless to make any further attempts to transact business, he quietly spoke a few words to a police officer near him and suspended the sitting amid deafening and vociferous cries of "Shame from the leftists and applause from the rightists." The substance of the words spoken to the police officer by President Abrahamovics soon became apparent, for an officer and four policemen removed Dr. Wolff from the house by force in spite of considerable physical opposition upon the part of his sitters.

When the president again re-entered the house he was once more greeted with a shower of opprobrious epithets, including cries of "Criminal," "Traitor," "Get out." After withstanding this storm for a period the president again left the house, but only for a moment, and on his return, he instructed the police to withdraw, declaring amid a tremendous uproar: "I entrust my life to your care, do as you please. But remember this is no personal question. The honor of your chair is at stake." The president called upon Count Stuerghk to speak but the tumult continued and the president suspended Herr Daszynski, the socialist deputy who had some time previously shouted that the president should be in jail, for three sittings.

When Herr Daszynski refused to leave the house, the president summoned the police and the turbulent deputy was ejected from the building. Subsequently the president suspended eleven other deputies.

The scenes throughout the sitting afterwards were as disorderly as those of the earlier parts of the day and the house finally adjourned until tomorrow.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve

The best salve in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all skin eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction of money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by R. R. Bell & Co.

The Tarboro Murder Trial

(Special to The Messenger.)
Tarboro, N. C., November 26.—The Alford-Fields case for the murder of Fred Keel by poisoning was given to the jury tonight. The case has consumed some days of hard work. Alford is a white man and Fields a negro. Fields' defense is that he was a tool for Alford who gave him (Fields) the capsule that killed Keel; that he (Fields) did not know he was giving Keel poison. The fight is a three cornered one.

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Nearly Completed—The Cabinet Going Over the Chapter on Reciprocity and Foreign Trade Relations—Secretary Gage and the President Generally Agreed on Currency Reform Recommendations

Washington, November 26.—The president has not finally completed his message to congress. The matter is, however, in such shape that it can be put in form for the printer at a day's notice, but this notice has not yet been given and the cabinet spent most of the time of today's session going over once more certain portions of the document. One of these portions was the very first chapter of the message, treating of the foreign relations of our government. It is in question whether water works, electric lights and street railways ought to be operated by the city for its people, or by private individuals. The state superintendent of public instruction was master of ceremonies, and the judges, S. A. Ashe, Hugh Morson and James Dinwiddie, decided in favor of Wake Forest. The letter's speakers showed more oratorical ability. They contended that private individuals should be the operators.

A. D. Lippitt, of Pittsboro, for thirty years well known as a commercial traveler, died yesterday, aged 57 years. He was a native of Wilmington. There is now complaint as to the use of convicts in making shirts. There is also complaint by farmers against their employment on farms. It appears that road building is the only thing which is open to them about which there is no complaint. There is a fresh demand for a state board of pardons. It may be stated that any governor during the past twenty years would have been glad to have had such a board. The responsibility as to pardons is perhaps the heaviest which a governor has to bear. The secretary of state grants charters to the Robeson County Telephone Company, at Lumberton, giving it power to operate lines to any point; the Carolina Ice Company, of Wilmington, incorporates T. J. Collett, Isaac Ratowsky and S. L. Kaletsky, capital \$10,000; the Mt. Airy Furniture Company, capital \$15,000.

Revenue officers have made a raid in Chatham county and captured a large still and 3,000 gallons of beer. Three arrests were made.

An aged negro who died in Chatham a day or so ago, had a cane which was hollow and carried a quart of whiskey. He so loved this cane and its memories that at his request it was placed in his hands in his coffin.

At St. Mary's Roman Catholic college, at Belmont today, which was the third of the jubilee of Bishop Leo Held, there were field sports. The gifts to the bishop were very numerous and beautiful. The jubilee sermon was preached yesterday in the new abbey church, which was quite recently completed.

Democratic State Chairman Manly tells me: "Our ranks are strengthening and we will certainly win in 1898 if we keep our heads and act with the harmony of men who have a great and common purpose, and feel its importance to the general welfare."

Otho Wilson declares in his paper, The Hayseeder, that Senator Butler told him he would make some kind of a deal in 1900 by which he would continue in power.

A Wake county farmer sent to President McKinley a box containing an "ash cake" and some 4 1/2 cent cotton, saying the former was for his Thanksgiving dinner.

Horace Emerson, of the Atlantic Coast Line, was here several hours today.

Mr. Frank S. Sprull, of Louisville, is seriously sick, with rheumatism of the heart.

Republican leaders say "nobody accuses our organization of being responsible for the administration of Governor Russell." They claim that the democrats do not hold them responsible. Democrats speak of this republican statement as "childish."

The Bear Sails
Seattle, Wash., November 27.—The United States revenue cutter Bear sailed tonight for Alaska to rescue the imprisoned whalers who are in the Arctic ocean.

Salisbury World: Mrs. Z. B. Vance, who has been visiting Miss Jennie Klutz for the past week, left last Tuesday for Washington City, where she will spend the winter. Combroon, Mrs. Vance's summer home, will be closed for the winter.

Cubans Determined to be Free

New York, November 26.—The Cuban constituent assembly, which met recently at Camaguey to re-model the constitution and elect a new president, issued a manifesto which reached the office of the Cuban junta in this city today. The document says that the assembly, before adjourning, deemed it its duty to proclaim, among other things, that: "No special laws, no political reform or autonomy, nothing in short, that the Spanish government may be willing to grant, that may mean Spanish sovereignty over Cuba, shall be accepted by the Cuban people until the day when the independence and sacred motto of the Cubans, it is our purpose to continue an independent state, orderly, prosperous and happy, over the ruins of a wretched colony."

The reports show an unusually small amount of hog cholera this year. There is an abundant crop of acorns. There will be an increase in the amount of pork put up, as compared with former years. The survey is preparing a specially illustrated monograph on the water power of the state. It will be well illustrated.

THAT ROCKY MOUNT SPEECH

WHY OTHO BELIEVES MARY ANN GUILTY OF THE CHARGE

Arrested for Swindling Through the Mails. The Inter-Collegiate Debate—Complaints Against Competition in Labor by Convicts—Demand for a Board of Pardons. Wilmington Ice Company Chartered. A Wake County Farmer's Present to McKinley—Butler Schewing for 1900

Messenger Bureau, Raleigh, N. C., November 26.

Otho Wilson makes an earnest attack on Senator Butler regarding the latter's now noted Rocky Mount speech and says he does not doubt that Butler made the statement that democrats would hire negroes to commit rape, because he believes "Butler is the only man in North Carolina mean enough to suspect such motives in a human being."

John A. Meeder, of Poplar Mount, Warren county, is in jail here, charged with swindling by the use of the mails. He is a German, and has not been in this country long. He had a little country store, but sent out circulars by the thousand, as "The German Supply Company," advertising jewelry and offering prizes. The postmaster at the little hamlet is also involved. Registered letters have poured in. A United States commissioner gave the case a hearing last night, and sent Meeder, who is a very large man, to jail. When Meeder was arrested there was quite a struggle before he could be put on the train.

The largest audience ever seen in the Academy of Music here assembled last night and heard the debate between Wake Forest and Trinity students upon the question whether water works, electric lights and street railways ought to be operated by the city for its people, or by private individuals. The state superintendent of public instruction was master of ceremonies, and the judges, S. A. Ashe, Hugh Morson and James Dinwiddie, decided in favor of Wake Forest. The letter's speakers showed more oratorical ability. They contended that private individuals should be the operators.

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A Fifteen Days Revival
A protracted meeting will commence in Brooklyn Baptist church this morning, to last ten or fifteen days. The pastor, Rev. James W. Kramer, will be assisted by the Rev. Western Bruner, D. D., pastor of the old historic Lee street Baptist church, Baltimore, Md.
The church has been very fortunate in getting Dr. Bruner to help them, as he is a tower of strength in his church. Dr. Bruner has accomplished a great work in the city of Baltimore. He is one of the strongest young men in his church, and is an able preacher, full of earnestness. He has had fine success in assisting churches in revival meetings.
Services will be held nightly at 7:30 p. m. All are invited to go and take Gospel hymns Nos. 5 and 6.

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The greatest remedy for nervous prostration and all nervous diseases of the reproductive organs of either sex, such as Nervous Prostration, Falling or Lost Manhood, Impotency, Nightly Emissions, Youthful Errors, Mental Worry, excessive use of Tobacco or Opium, which lead to Consumption and Insanity. With every \$5.00 order we give a written guarantee to cure or refund the money. Sold at \$1.00 per box, 6 boxes for \$5.00. H. L. MOTT'S CHEMICAL COMPANY, Cleveland, Ohio.
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1200 POUNDS BROKEN CANDY.
3000 POUNDS PLAIN CANDY.
200 BOXES PENNY CANDY.
150 BOXES L. L. RAISINS.
100 BOXES LOOSE RAISINS.
200 BOXES FINE CRACKERS.
25 BARRELS APPLES.

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50 BOXES STICK CANDY.
50 BUCKETS MIXED CANDY.
50 TUBS BROKEN CANDY.
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10,000 ROIGS REINITOS CIGARS.
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COCOANUTS (to arrive.)
LIXED NUTS.
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NEW EVAPORATED PEARS.
NEW CITRON.
MACARONI.
ATMORE'S MINCE MEAT.
HECKER'S Prepared Buckwheat.
HECKER'S Pain Buckwheat.
HECKER'S OATMEAL.
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